the Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

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Life moves on, but the memory remains

Students, faculty, and staff remember those who were lost two years ago.

BY CIJI PAGAN
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

All the lights,
All the people,
The unspoken prayers,
The hugging and the silent tears;
These were all part of the candlelight vigil.

A collection of Saint Leo students, the surrounding community, and staff gathered in The Circle for a candlelight vigil. At 7:45 p.m. on September 11, 2003, the candlelight vigil was a ceremony for those to remember their loved ones and for those who helped out in the most crucial time the United States has encountered in awhile.

On September 11, 2001, three hijacked planes full of passengers were purposefully crashed into predetermined locations in New York and Washington. A fourth hijacked plane crashed into a field in Pennsylvania when the passengers tried to overtake its hijackers. More than 250 passengers and crew lost their lives. On the ground, almost 3,000 people died at the Pentagon and in the collapse of the World Trade Center. Some people feel September 11 is a day for everyone to remember

— REMEMBER CON'T ON PAGE 5

Photograph by Julia Carroll
Two students walked from their dorms to attend the vigil. They watched as The Gospel choir sang songs.

Saint Leo receives largest gift in University's history

A Tampa couple bequeaths Saint Leo a $2.5 million trust.

BY PUBLIC RELATIONS
A special to The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO – Saint Leo University President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr. announced the establishment of a $2.5 million scholarship endowment from the bequest of a Tampa-area couple committed to Catholic higher education in Florida. This comes just weeks after the announcement of the first $1 million gift in the University's history.

The Gaston R. and Evelyn De Groote Scholarship Awards Trust, valued at $2,580,284, was created through a bequest of the late Captain Gaston R. De Groote and Evelyn De Groote of Riverview, Fla. The De Groote Trust is both the largest bequest and largest gift ever received by the University.

"Twenty years ago, Captain and Mrs. De Groote began making plans to help students to pursue a college education. Now, students from Florida, the United Sates, and across the globe will be able to begin to realize their dreams here at Saint Leo," said Dr. Kirk.

Captain De Groote, a native of Nazareth, Belgium, became an American citizen in 1927 and pursued a distinguished career in the Merchant Marines, earning distinction for wartime convoy service. He achieved international prominence in 1959 upon his appointment as commanding officer of the N.S. Savannah, the first nuclear powered cargo vessel. Captain De Groote and his ship were profiled in a 1962 issue of *National Geographic*.

Upon retirement from active service in 1964, the De Grootes moved to Tampa, where Captain De Groote formed a ship surveyor business. Making their home in nearby Riverview, the De Grootes became involved in Riverview's Catholic Parish, Church of the Resurrection. Mrs. De Groote

——— GIFT CON'T ON PAGE 7

Opinions

EDITORIAL

College students will download music no matter what

STAFF EDITORIAL
Oregon Daily Emerald (U. Oregon)

(U-WIRE) EUGENE, Ore. — There's been a lot of talk about the trading of songs online, what with the Recording Industry Association of America's recent attempts to subpoena Boston College and Massachusetts Institute of Technology for students' names.

RIAA has gone on a rampage, seeking more than 900 subpoenas to help identify Internet service providers or individuals illegally swapping copyrighted material on the Web. A ruling that disallows requests from out of state slightly stalled the latest attempts, but RIAA will soon file the proper paperwork and will probably win access to those involved in the online trading.

It's not coincidence that college students are under attack by the RIAA, either; students across the country have access to the latest in technology and are often plugged in to the fastest networks. Furthermore, students are able to find just what they're looking for — whether it's DMB or Nelly's "Shake Your Tailfeather" (Boy, it's catchy, isn't it?).

It's easy. Point. Click. Wait about 10 seconds if it's a fast connection, a few minutes if it's not ("We can even do it slow / Oh, oh ...). And there it is: musical bliss.

Beyond the simplicity of online file sharing, though, is a key componentthat contributes to the phenomenon: students' mentalities.

People well into their 70s are becoming increasingly computer-savvy, but those who use programs like Kazaa and Morpheus are 50 years their junior. There's something about our generation that makes us prone to thinking we can have anything we want. Perhaps it is because our baby boomer parents indulged us with all they didn't have, or perhaps we're just spoiled brats. In any event, we seem to think swapping — or stealing, technically — is just fine and dandy.

Some of us will admit that file sharing is theft but will quickly counter that it's OK. The recording industry is, after all, evil. Musical stars, too, have quite enough money, so they don't mind. Maybe the best one, though, is the argument that the Internet is here for the expression of free thought — and by all means MP3s certainly fit that criterion.

Perhaps the recording industry is malicious. Today, don't you almost feel lucky to pick up a CD on sale for $14.99? After all, the suggested retail price seems to linger somewhere around $18.

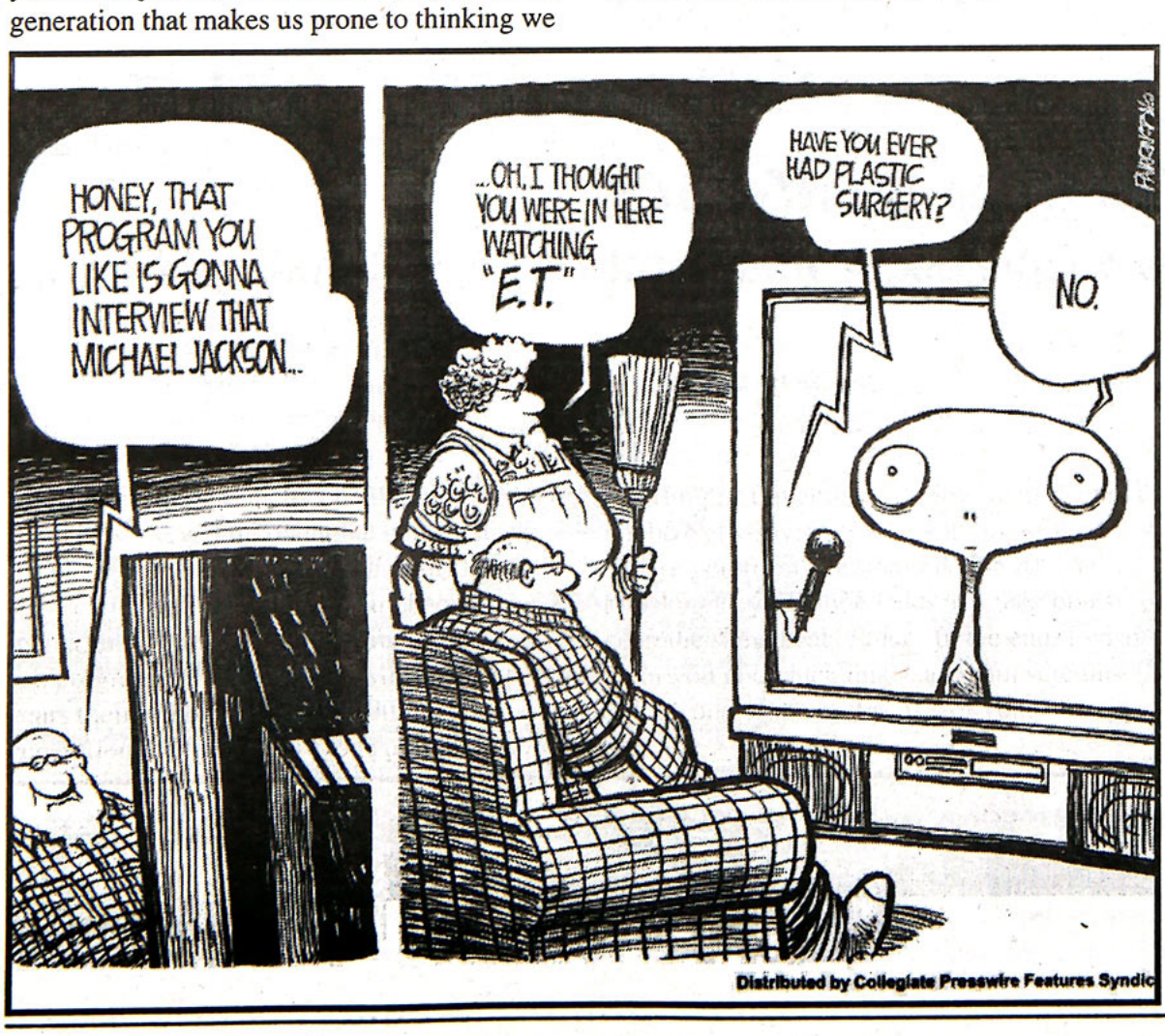
Conversely, record sales are declining. Many say this slump has nothing to do with online trading; it's purely happenchance. Equally as coincidental as, say, Milli Vanilli losing all respectability after being shown for what they really were: two lookers with locks who couldn't sing a lick (but they sure could dance).

What college students don't understand is that downloading songs off the Internet is the same as walking into the local record store and lifting a couple of CDs. Music is intellectual property, and taking it without paying for it is theft. Yeah, maybe rock stars have a lot of money, but they damn well deserve it, as does anyone who makes and sells something.

Really, though, us college kids are going to do what we want. Downloading songs from the Net isn't the most serious of crimes, and hey, as long as we're not the one sharing — ironically, it's OK to steal, just not to share — we're safe for now.

So download away; we're downloading "Tailfeather" right now so we can seductively swivel our collective asses after we finish the paper.

But just remember, in a few years it might not be Nelly saying "What your name is / Where you from?" It could be the RIAA knocking at your door. Odds are, they don't keep the same beat, either. In the end, I wish all of you good luck this year. I am sure this will be one of the best year's of your life.



EDITORIAL

"...under God?"

BY JON BENTON
Saint Leo College of Online Learning

SAINT LEO - I came across an essay that caused me some distress. It was an English essay about the Pledge of Allegiance, and why its recital should be allowed in our nation's schools. As a patriot, and a member of the military, I will be one of the first to stand up and support the recital of the pledge in our schools. I think patriotism and pride in our nation should be taught at an early age but not at the expense of compromising the ideas that this nation was formed on. The Constitution of the United States was ratified forming this nation under the premise that separation of church and state was paramount. Anyone who does not agree with me should read the First Amendment of that great document, and then ask why "under God" was added to the pledge in the first place. I agree whole-heartedly with the author that the pledge should be allowed in our public schools, but it shouldn't be there with the religious connotations that it has now.

The author was correct in stating that the pledge had been written in 1892, but what she failed to mention was that it was modified in 1954 by a joint resolution of Congress, and President Eisenhower added the famous words "under God." This was not the first battle the pledge had seen. The Supreme Court deemed mandatory recital of the pledge by public school students unconstitutional in 1943.

Another point the author made was that the words "under God" could apply to everyone who practices any form of religion. What she fails to realize is that our Constitution holds the choice not to practice religion with the same amount of respect as practicing a religion of your choice. Some Americans are extremely proud to vocalize their association with the United States by reciting a pledge, but the religious undertone makes them feel left out.

My last point will argue the author's belief that the Pledge of Allegiance stands next to the National Anthem. In many ways, she is correct. The National Anthem incites a great amount of pride and is a symbol of patriotism that can be found at the onset of almost every public event in this nation. But there is one major difference between the first verse of the Star Spangled Banner and the Pledge of Allegiance; the words that are sung from the first verse of the Star Spangled Banner contain no reference to religion. (The words in verse four of the National Anthem do contain reference to religion, but they are never recited.)

In closing, I want to reiterate my feelings about the necessity of the Pledge of Allegiance in our classrooms. I did it as a child, and I feel it is our duty as parents to ensure that our children recite it as well. Everyone who chooses to live in this great nation should pledge allegiance to it on a daily basis, but he/she shouldn't have to make a religious event out of it. Let's undo the joint resolution made in 1954 and get the pledge back in our schools.

"Rockin' for School Supplies" was a hit

Students donated supplies for elementary schools in exchange for a free concert in The Cage.

BY MICHELLE BONNER
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - On September 10, a box a crayons got you a slice of pizza.

Rockin' for School Supplies was a Christian concert that collected supplies for the children of Lacoochee Elementary, Cox Elementary, and Farmer's Self-Help. College students brought school supplies to the concert in exchange for pizza and music.

The two bands that performed the free concert were LX7 and Balaam's Donkey. Their Christian rock sound could be heard for miles as people bobbed their heads to the music. The event was held in The Cage, and by the end of the evening their were no seats available.

The members of both bands said they donated their time to the event for the Lord, the salvation of lost souls, and because they felt it was a good cause.

The students couldn't have agreed more.

"The bands are great! I think they're very interesting, and I like their sound," said Julia Carroll, a freshman.

"I think the idea behind this concert is great. Bring school supplies and get some pizza," said freshman Harry Dale.

The Samaritans, who sponsored this event, plan to disburse the school supplies that they collected to the children of Cox and Lacoochee Elementary schools and to Farmer's Self-Help. This is their second year sponsoring this event, and this was their best turnout.

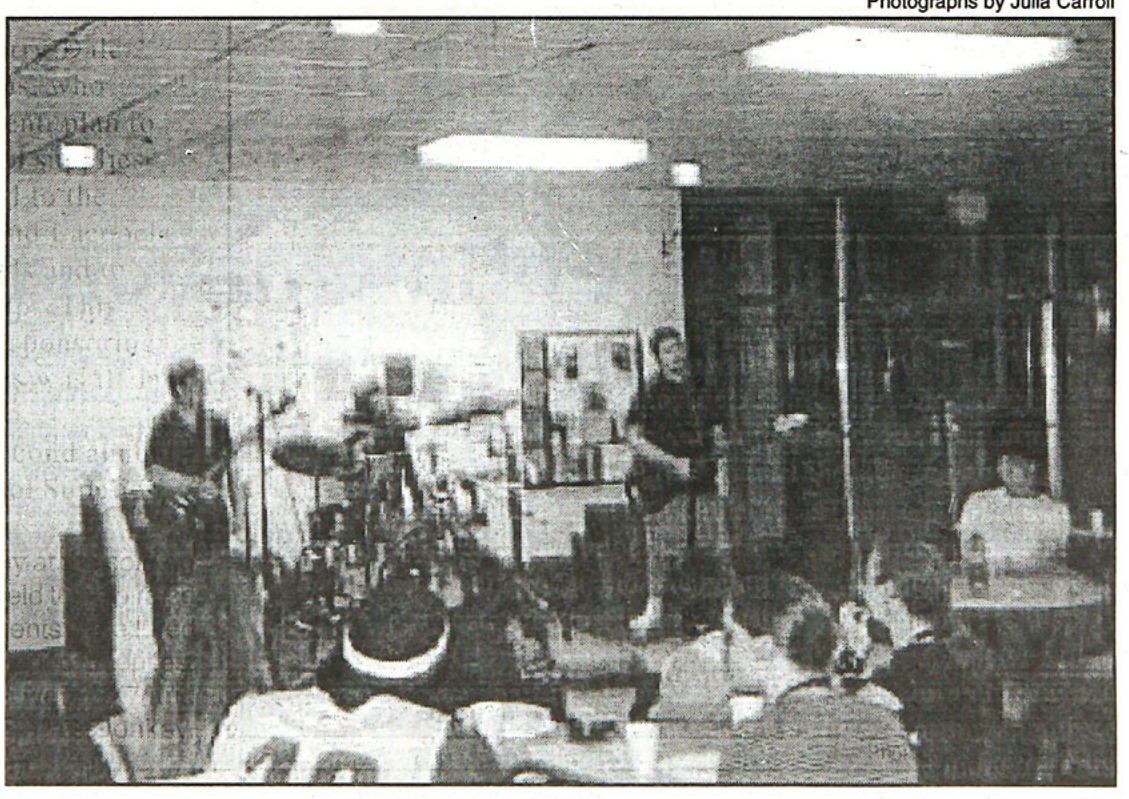
"This is the second annual 'Rockin' for School Supplies' event. After the first ten minutes, I already knew that it was going to be twice as good as last year," Connie Sliger, Samaritans advisor, said.

The Samaritans received a lot of school supplies in a short time. Some of the Samaritans and student chaplains made an appearance at the event. They came to show their support, help out, and enjoy the free music and pizza. Even Sister Caroline joined in the festivities. She was having such as good time that she and Connie Sliger danced to the music.

So far, the supplies collected for the school supply drive have surpassed those collected last year, and they are still coming in.

Connie Sliger and Sister Caroline danced the night away at the concert held in The Cage on September 10. The concert was held to help raise school supplies for the local community schools. Students were lured to the concert by the promise of free pizza for their school supplies. The two bands that performed the free concert were LX7 and Balaam's Donkey.

Photographs by Julia Carroll



WRITE HERE

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Send letters to the editor to lions.pride@saintleo.edu

Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship.

All letters are subject to editing.

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Saint Leo Mainstage Play

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Saturday, October 25
Sunday, October 26
Monday, October 27
Sunday, November 2

College jobs provide training, spending money

BY MAGGIE KOERTH
University Daily Kansan (U. Kansas)

(U-WIRE) LAWRENCE, Kan. - The prospect of another year working part time to make ends meet is, admittedly, not awe-inspiring. Few students look forward to serving food, selling clothes or working a campus job for minimum wage. But the proverbial "crap job" doesn't have to be without its upside. Part-time campus jobs that relate to specific majors are available and even off-campus jobs can provide skills you can use in the real world.

Keith Redmond, Kansas City, Kan., senior, is a theatre major. For the past few semesters he has been working in the costume shop at the University, helping to pick and create the outfits student actors wear on stage. Redmond says the experience helped him decide what he wants to do with his life.

"It made me realize that I didn't really want to be a full-time actor," he says. "What I do there is basically what I'd want to do in the real world. It's the perfect on-the-job training."

Many campus jobs, as well as off-campus internships, provide that kind of training, says Ann Hartley, associate director for University Career and Employment Services. Her office helps students connect with career-enhancing job opportunities through their Web site, www.ku.edu/~uces. Hartley says internships probably provide the best opportunities to learn skills and get resume-worthy credentials, but she cautioned that not all internships would bring home the bacon.

"Depending on the skills you need, you might need to take an unpaid internship to get the experience," she said. "You might need to take a part-time job on top of that, but if it's what you want to do and what you really love, then you should try to make it work."

Hartley also suggested getting involved with campus organizations related to your major. That way you can get experience and skills, even if not through a job. Some student organizations, such as Student Union Activities, even have paid leadership positions.

For some students, an off-campus retail or service job can provide career-applicable skills. Fallon Farokhi, Lawrence, Kan., senior, has worked at the Gap in Lawrence since she was in high school. Farokhi wants to teach elementary school after she graduates. She says working at the Gap has helped to prepare her for that.

"You have to learn how to adapt yourself and your personality to deal with so many different customers and managers and co-workers," she said. "That's just the kind of thing I am going to have to do with students, their parents and school administration later on."

Whether you're looking for an on-campus job, off-campus job or an internship, the Web site of University Career and Employment Services is a great place to find opportunities. Another tactic for finding a position is to just keep your eyes open and talk to people about what you're looking for. For instance, when Keith Redmond decided he wanted a second part-time job, he got one by chatting with the boss of a friend.

JOB SEARCH TIPS

You've got a resume. You've got an "interview" suit. But do you really know how to find a job? It isn't as easy as just dropping off a resume. Hartley, associate director of University Career and Employment Services, makes a living by helping students find both full- and part-time jobs. She shares some of her job-hunting tips with Jayplay.

1) Do your homework. "Definitely know something about the organization you are applying to," Hartley says. "Their history, who's in charge, who they are." Not doing background research is one of the biggest mistakes career-hunting students make, Hartley says. This research might also help you get the part-time job you need to make ends meet during school. Hartley says research isn't expected in part-time jobs, but with the job market tight this year, even for part-time jobs, anything you can do to make yourself stand out is important.

2) Don't be passive. Dropping off a resume is just the first step in a process. In a bad job market, it's important to keep in contact with the employer so he knows that you really want that job, Hartley says. It helps to make face-to-face contacts so that you become more than a disembodied application. "Don't call every single day," Hartley says. "But unless they tell you 'no phone calls,' most employers don't have a problem with follow-ups."

3) Be positive. Attitude is everything on the job hunt. "It's like going on a blind date," Redmond says. "You try to make yourself look good and sound articulate and right for the job." Hartley calls this "selling yourself to the employer." She says the one thing interviewers everywhere look for is an applicant with a positive attitude who is willing to work and be reliable. These are all things you can show off in an interview setting.

4) Be open-minded. "I've had so many students go to the career fair and find jobs at companies they didn't even know existed," Hartley says. Don't pick out one amazing company as the only one you'll work for. There are more options available than you know about. Even if you have to take a job you aren't thrilled with at first, it could lead to something better, Hartley says.

5) Pay attention. Part of impressing a potential employer is proving that you notice detail and can follow instructions, Hartley says. The best place to start is by turning in your application materials in the format that the company wants them. Don't just think you can mail in your materials and be done. "A lot more is done electronically now," Hartley says. "They may not do anything with a mailed-in copy."

Many unaware of international news

BY VALERIE ANGELO
Mustang Daily (California Poly State U.)

(U-WIRE) SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. — More than a thousand people die in France. Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians unite over a water crises. Liberian President Charles Taylor steps down in accordance to President Bush's demands.

The effects of these recent events may touch many lives and nations, but some residents and students have little knowledge of the occurrences.

"[Americans'] knowledge of national and international news is weak," John Culver, Cal Poly political science professor, said. "Too many polls and surveys document this, from our lack of geographical awareness to woeful science background to misinformation about politics and law."

According to a Summer Mustang survey conducted, respondents were knowledgeable about events that took place within their immediate surroundings such as the Gray Davis recall and the Kobe Bryant rape case. However, they had minimal awareness about recent international news.

"We have a more meaningful role to play in society than the person whose response to most topics of discussion is 'I don't know' and 'I don't care,'" Culver said.

When asked about the recent deaths of Europeans due to the heat wave, many respondents thought that the deaths were a result of bombings, paparazzi interference or simply did not respond at all.

"A real dilemma is why we are so ill-informed since we have access to a wide variety of media and are fairly literate," Culver said. "Most Americans can tell you who won on the last 'Survivor,' but how U.S. troops got to Bosnia is a mystery to them."

According to the survey, many TV viewers preferred to watch regular programs rather than tune into their local news. Some referred to the news as "depressing" while others felt the prime time shows were more interesting and exciting.

"Most of the media is broken in general," said Southern California software engineer Richard Navarro, who took the survey. "They are way too biased and only out to get the best ratings and not convey the best message."

On the other hand, agribusiness junior Jeff Owens felt national and international news was interesting and important but was not a huge priority in his life.

"It's not the first thing on my to-do list, but if I see it then I'll read it," Owens said.

The lack of interest and knowledge of national and international news has become a huge concern for professors and media professionals.

"None of us can afford to be isolated today in this global environment where we're so dependent on each other, whether we know it or not — in agriculture, politics, business, to name just a few," executive editor of The Tribune Sandy Duerr said.

As a result, local television networks and newspapers interlace international news with national news on a local level to gain the interest of their viewers, KSBY anchor and news director Tony Cipolla said.

"If something is happening nationally or internationally we try to find the local angle," Cipolla said. "People relate to things that are closer to home."

The importance of having a well-informed audience is crucial, political science professor Dianne Long said.

"Understanding our world is key to knowing how to respond to it, how to plan a fulfilling life, how to relate to others," Long said. "Knowing about our neighborhood, city, state, nation and world enrich our perceptions of our roles as we act out our lives."

Knowledge of world news develops character and hopefully compassion and understanding, Culver said.

"Few people admire ignorance or those who profess to live a day to day life detached from the larger world around us," Culver said. "The dunce may be revered in Hollywood movies, but there's scant economic incentive to hire one. We certainly don't look to them for inspiration and leadership."

REMEMBER CON'T

what happened and those who perished.

"(I feel) 9/11 represented to me how on one specific day, America came together as one nation to rebuild what was lost and also to unite in a fight against terrorism," Christina Rivera, a freshman, said.

Citizens came together following 9/11 looking for those who may still have been trapped in the rubble. The people of New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington have cleaned up and have begun to reconstruct their lives. In retaliation against terrorism, the United States has sent over our troops. The citizens of the United States have been praying for them since their departure.

"For 9/11 there becomes a reminder of our own depths in God and in one another. My first concern is reminding us of the need for God and the need for community in order to live through catastrophic tragedies," Father Michael said regarding his feelings towards the September 11 tragedy.

September 11 has the capability to bring an entire nation together in prayer and remembrance of a day that we became one, regardless of ethnicity, religion, sex, or economical status. The unity of the people of the United States has strengthened each individual into gathering as one to rebuild our nation. This September 11 helped to remind us of our unity and of our sacrifices.

Photograph by Natasha Fredericks

Photograph by Julia Carroll

On September 11 many of the Saint Leo students got together for a candlelight vigil. Students walked from the residence halls to The Circle with candles, where they participated in a ceremony commemorating the incidents on 9/11.

Freshmen deal with separation anxiety

Methods exist to help freshmen ease the stress and sadness.

BY JACKIE DULIAN
Daily News (Ball State U.)

(U-WIRE) MUNCIE, Ind. — One word reverberated through the minds of many freshmen as they arrived on campus last week: "Finally."

But some of those students who awaited the freedom of college spent their days alone in their rooms moping and waxing to return home.

These students are the victims of separation anxiety.

"I experienced homesickness just at the thought of starting college because I'm very close to my mom and my friends, and I was afraid to leave them," said freshman Amy McGarvey.

Several different factors can cause separation anxiety, such as homesickness and a feeling of inferiority in a new atmosphere.

While many students experience apprehension similar to McGarvey's, other students embrace the college experience by setting high expectations for themselves.

Many faculty and advisors encourage students to set goals for themselves to create a sense of stability.

But expectations that are too high cause stress and pressure.

"Some of my homesickness was related to the fact that I set too many expectations for myself," McGarvey said. "I expected to meet new friends that would last a lifetime, and I expected to excel academically, and I expected it all to happen right away."

Although separation anxiety and the transition to college life is often difficult, it's not hopeless. Different methods exist to ease stress and sadness.

For example, Wilson Hall Resident Adviser Kelly Hedinger suggests getting involved in a campus activities.

"If you do not get involved in campus activities and instead sit in your dorm room missing someone or something, it will only make the transition to college life that much more difficult," Hedinger said.

Students can also decorate their dorm rooms with mementos from home to create a type of comfort zone or find solace in discussing their loneliness with students.

Good nutrition, exercise and at least seven hours of sleep also help relieve stress and prepare students to face the challenges of college life.

In addition to these tips, many programs also exist on campus in order to ease the adjustment process.

The Counseling Center is open to students every day to provide advice or support. The center also publishes online a program called "Concerned Charlie," which functions much like a "Dear Abby" column. It anonymously prints student questions and answers them.

The programs of Welcome Week, the Freshman Advising Center and the Freshman Connections program also provide students with an introduction to college life and give them the opportunity to meet other students with similar interests.

"The Welcome Week activities were really good because it allowed the students to meet other people in the hall and provided the opportunity to socialize," McGarvey said.

Arts & Entertainment

Campus Watch

Who will be watching what this fall?

BY RACHEL BLACKWOOD
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

What are the students and faculty of Saint Leo going to be watching this fall? The TV networks are preparing a lineup of shows, designed to grab the audience during prime time and keep them watching week after week. Movie companies are also putting the final touches on films to be released in the fall. Which third installment will take in the most money: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (Warner Bros.), *Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* (New Line Cinema), or *Matrix Revolutions* (Warner Bros.)?

But from all these choices, what are Saint Leo students planning to watch? Michelle Bonner, sophomore, said that her three TV choices for the season are *Hope & Faith* (ABC), *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* (Bravo), and *Grounded for Life* (Fox). Hopefully, these three comedies will keep her laughing well into the semester. As for movies, she's looking forward to the big three: *Lord of the Rings, the Matrix,* and *Harry Potter*. While waiting for those to be released, she plans to see *Once Upon a Time in Mexico* (Columbia). The movie stars Antonio Banderas, Johnny Depp, and Enrique Iglesias, or as Michelle exclaimed, "Three nice [butts] in one movie!" Icela Loza-Agreda, sophomore and native Mexican, plans on seeing the film, which also stars Salma Hayek, as well.

Most students admitted that they will be very busy this semester and won't have much time to watch a lot of TV or movies. Deanna Leahy, freshman, looks forward to the new season of *Stargate SG-1* on the Sci-Fi channel. She would also like to see the new vampire movie *Underworld* (Sony), which also made Michelle Bonner's list of must-sees. John Hezewyk, sophomore, plans on watching the new season of *Smallville* on the WB, which chronicles the teenaged years of the popular hero, Superman. Helena Ekloff, senior, stated that she doesn't really watch much TV, but is looking forward to the remake of the 1974 film *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (New Line Cinema), which will be released on October 17.

Some faculty members also revealed what shows and movies they are looking forward to this season. Dr. Charles Grimes of the English department stated that he's "hooked already" on *The Handler* (CBS), starring Joe Pantoliano because he's "seen the commercials so many times." Another CBS show he's hoping will do well is *Cold Cases*, a new detective show, which will compete against the plethora of police and crime shows on the air, including *NYPD Blue* (ABC), *Law & Order* (NBC) and *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* (CBS). Dr. Michael Moorman, Business Administration, admits that although he doesn't watch much TV, he is looking forward to seeing in theaters *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter* because "the animation is really great." Only one TV show is on the Religion department's Dr. Ty Anderson's mind – *The West Wing* (NBC). Dr. Anderson enjoys the show because of its "great dialogue." Mr. Jeremy Silverman, choir director and music professor, commented that he was not looking forward to any of the new TV shows this season, but he does plan to watch the final season of *Friends* (NBC) and continuing seasons of *Law & Order* (NBC).

Top Box Office Movies

1. Once Upon a Time in Mexico (Columbia Pictures)
2. Matchstick Men (Warner Bros.)
3. Cabin Fever (Lion's Gate)
4. Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (Paramount)
5. Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl (Buena Vista)
6. Freaky Friday (Buena Vista)
7. Jeepers Creepers II (MGM)
8. Seabiscuit (Universal)
9. S.W.A.T. (Columbia Pictures)
10. Open Range (Buena Vista)

Information courtesy of the Internet Movie Database (http://imdb.com).

MUSIC IN REVIEW

CD Review: Keller Williams goes "Home" alone

BY MEGHAN HEALY
The Daily Cougar (U. Houston)

(U-WIRE) HOUSTON - It is a brave move for a modern-day musician to release an album that strays from the conventional and in Keller Williams's case, an intelligent one as well. With his latest release, "Home," Williams offers up a musically complex and lyrically clever record, simultaneously proving himself as a formidable musician and setting himself apart from all the other boys with guitars that seem to be dominating today's airwaves.

Among the tracks on "Home," Williams fans will be excited to see a collection of live favorites mixed with new songs created in the Fredericksburg, Va. studio where the album was recorded. Listeners may also be surprised to learn that the only musician appearing on the record is Williams himself. "I played acoustic and electric guitars and basses, guitar synthesizers, piano, organ, all kinds of percussion, drums, cymbals and of course, all the voices," Williams said in the album's release statement.

Though such an undertaking could prove disastrous for many artists, for Keller Williams it proved suiting. Since "Home" is his sole vision and his sole creation, every beat seems to fall in sync. Not only did this experiment in record-making grant solidity to the album, it also allowed the musician the chance to fulfill a long-standing dream. "Being the sole player on the record is something I've wanted to do for a long time," Williams said.

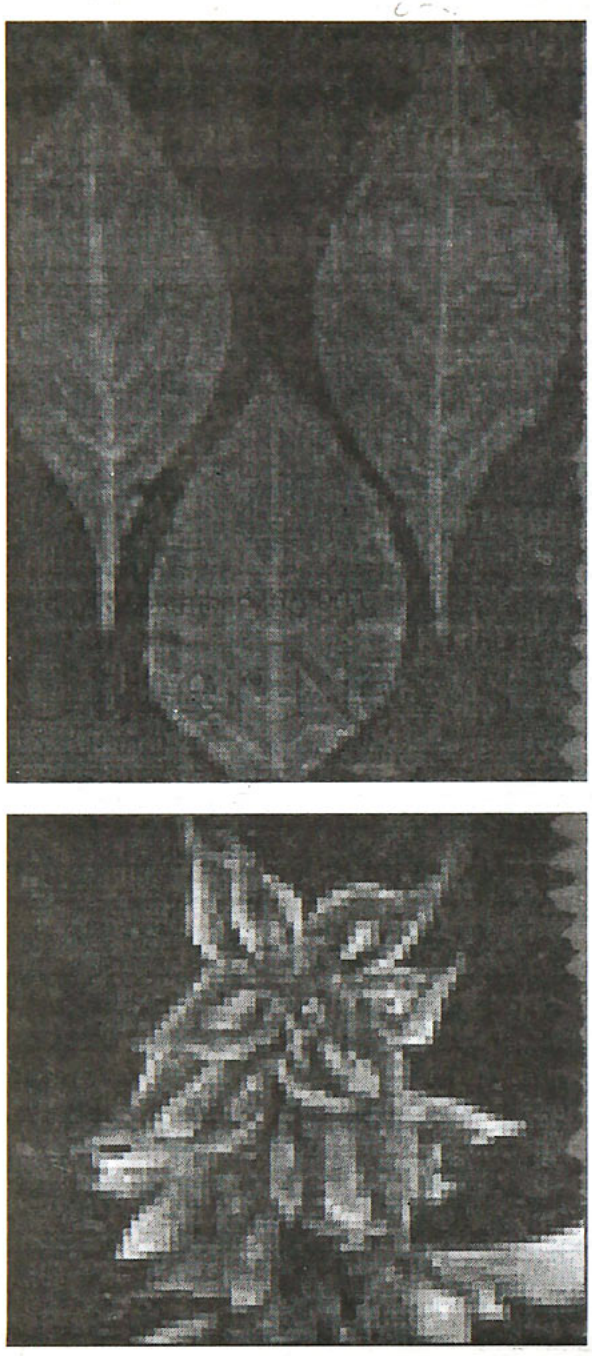
Armed with an arsenal of previously unreleased material and scores of tracks written in the studio, Williams and co-producer Jeff Covert stumbled over which direction to take the material in. "The original idea was to do a double CD; one being vocal and one being instrumental. Instead, I trimmed it down to one disc; half vocal and half instrumental," said Williams in a letter to fans on his Web site. The balance between these two song forms is brilliant, keeping "Home" inventive and engaging throughout. The album is an evolving entity, shifting with each track, shaping a unique experience for the listener.

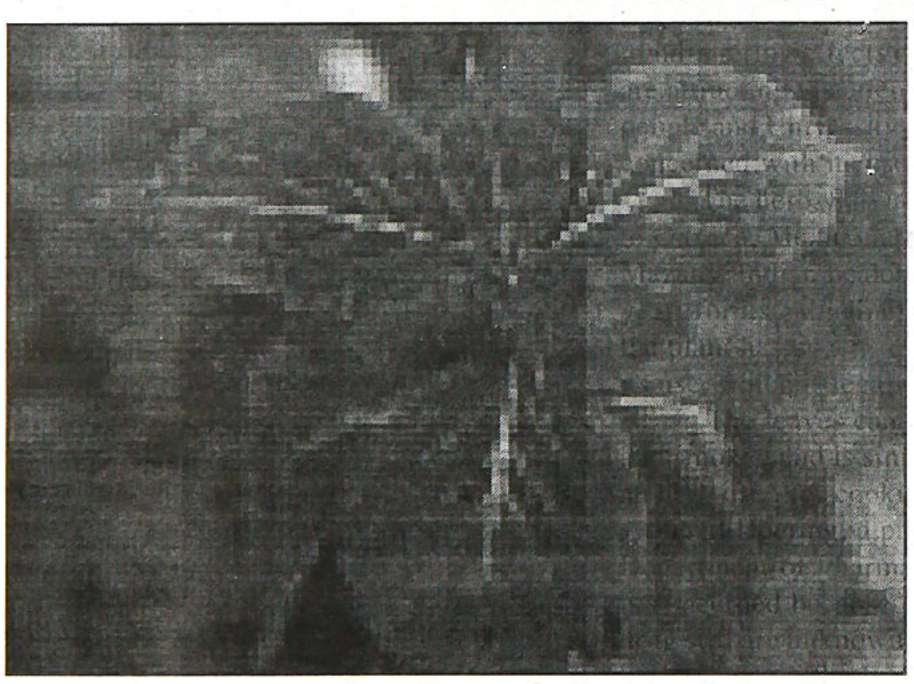
Though the eclectic sound found in the instrumental tracks is the strong point of the album, "Home" does not hesitate to prove its lyrical propensity as well. "Love Handles," the album opener and the most radio-friendly track of the bunch, is a humorous and intelligent commentary on the pressures society places on people to have a certain body type. "So if you need a hand hold/ Baby you can take hold/ of my love handles/ More of me to love" shows Williams is whimsically offering up his imperfections as something others should grab on to.

Tracks like "You Are What You Eat" and "Victory Song" again allow Keller Williams the chance to display his impressive wit and remarkable ability to play with words, putting an unforeseen spin on the more traditional modus operandi for lyrics. In "Victory Song," a tune ostensibly about Martians, Williams asks the listener to hear what is being said underneath the comical facade. He decrees, "pretty soon some humans from Earth/ Will want to defect/ Be a part of the winning team/ Hopefully that can be avoided/ And we can be the underdog/ Come back from behind/ I think there is still time."

In "Home," Keller Williams offers more than solid instrumental tracks and thought-provoking lyrics. He has created a work of art.

Other News





Photographs obtained from: USDA, ARS, National Genetic Resources Program. *Germplasm Resources Information Network - (GRIN).* [Online Database] National Germplasm Resources Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland. Available: http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/tax_search.pl?Salvia+divinorum (13 September 2003)

University of Florida expert warns students about hallucinogenic plant

Experts worry attention paid to plant on Internet may fuel interest.

BY JESSICA ORR
Independent Florida Alligator (U. Florida)

(U-WIRE) GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The mind-altering effects of an ordinary plant are attracting the attention of both young people and University of Florida experts concerned with its use as a drug.

The herb, Salvia Divinorum, is native to Oaxaca, Mexico, and has been used by Mazatec Indian healers for hundreds of years for its hallucinogenic properties. Now the plant has dozens of Web sites devoted to its use, which is legal in the United States.

The leaves can be chewed or dried and smoked and is similar to the sage plant, an herb used for cooking.

Paul Doering, a professor at UF's Department of Pharmacy Practice, said he is concerned because the full effects of the drug still are unknown, and the attention paid to the plant on the Internet may fuel interest in using it recreationally.

"If a person equates the ready availability of a substance with safety, then they are mistaken," said Doering, who also co-directs a Florida hotline service devoted to answering questions about drugs. "The Internet frightens me, because people aren't always getting the whole story."

He added that his goal is not to cause alarm or push for the plant to be made illegal, but to inform people about the plant's effects so they know the consequences of using it as a drug.

Doering and members of his hotline staff answer questions about drugs by reading the latest studies and available information. He first heard of the drug about two years ago, but in the past three or four months use of the drug has seemed to go up, possibly because of more Internet sites, he said.

"We were receiving a lot of calls about Salvia Divinorum," he said. "We could tell by the frequency of calls that this was something that people were using. The more we looked, the more concerned we got."

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration Web site, researchers do not know exactly how the plant causes mental changes, but other molecules with similar structure to those found in the herb affect serotonin receptors in the brain.

The herb also contains molecules similar to those in the original recipe for the liquor absinthe, which is illegal in the United States.

Its effects have been compared to those of a hallucinogen called mescaline, and the plant is both grown in the United States and imported from Mexico.

Some U.S. groups advocate the use of the herb for spiritual experiences and have devoted numerous Web sites, such as www.sagewisdom.org, to the safe usage and cultivation of the plant.

Doering said college students he has talked to who have used the plant as a drug said the effects were unpleasant, and some said they experienced a feeling of isolation or impending doom. He added that there is a risk in experimenting with the drug because most people don't know what to expect.

"If you adequately inform people of it, then demand for it should go down," Doering said. "You can't protect people from themselves."

For a substance to be considered illegal, Food and Drug Administration scientists analyze the plant chemically and make a recommendation to the DEA. The agency then analyzes the data and determines if the drug can or will be abused, said Randy Rine, a DEA group supervisor in Orlando, Fla.

This process can take several years, he said.

A bill in 2002 to make use of the herb illegal failed to pass before Congress adjourned for the year's end.

"If it's not illegal, law enforcement can't do anything about it, and they'd probably be making contacts to authorities," Rine said.

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served as one of the church's Eucharist ministers.

Mrs. De Groote wanted to support Catholic higher education, so she selected Saint Leo to receive the trust after learning of the University's impact on the Tampa area. Her brother, Vincent Vanecek of Long Island, who was appointed trustee of the De Groote Trust, noted that Mrs. De Groote visited the Saint Leo University campus only once, but was deeply impressed by what she saw that day.

"Both Captain and Mrs. De Groote believed so deeply in the importance of a formal education that they endowed this scholarship fund to help students with financial needs in their quest for a full and rewarding life," said Vanecek.

While placing no restrictions on the scholarships other than financial need, their dream was for students from Captain De Groote's hometown of Nazareth, Belgium and from their parish church in Riverview to have the opportunity to apply for the scholarship. The DeGrootes also requested that the scholarship funds also be available to American and foreign-born students.

The De Groote gift comes at the beginning of the University's first-ever comprehensive fund-raising campaign. "We have begun our campaign with two tremendous gifts, one gift for $1 million for strategic initiatives and, now, the De Groote's generous $2.5 million-dollar bequest for our endowment," said Dr. Kirk. "This sets a high standard for leadership in our campaign."

Sports

Saint Leo volleyball heads into season with new leadership

Coach Stephanie Radecki hopes her experience will move the team forward

BY WALT RIDDLE
Sports Information Director

SAINT LEO - Stephanie Radecki has been to the Elite Eight in volleyball twice as a player and three times as an assistant coach.

The new leader of the Saint Leo University volleyball team has confidence her experience at the next level will rub off on her players as she seeks to turn things around at the Sunshine State Conference school.

"I feel this is a plus for me," said Radecki. "You can talk long and hard about what it takes to move the program forward, but if you have experienced that, it means a great deal more. It won't happen overnight, but we have a new beginning. Everything that happened previously is in the past. The slate has been wiped clean.

Radecki said she has no pre-conceived things about the season. "We will start fresh and formulate a game plan," said the coach. "We lost a spring season, because I didn't take over the program until April. We had just under three weeks together before they left for the summer.

"I just observed, took notes, and provided some guidance so we could see what we could put in place for the fall. We don't have a lot of depth. Our roster is small, but I am happy with this group as a unit. They are all eager and willing to get better."

The Lions were 16-18 overall in the 2002 season and finished fifth in the SSC with a 5-9 record.

Radecki looks to a group that includes junior setter Robbie Beach of Dayton, OH, senior outside hitter Rachael Yockey of Sylvania, OH, junior middle hitter Alison Baker of Hudson, FL and senior outside hitter Toniann Kelly of Wes Hempstead, NY for floor leadership. Beach and Kelly are team captains.

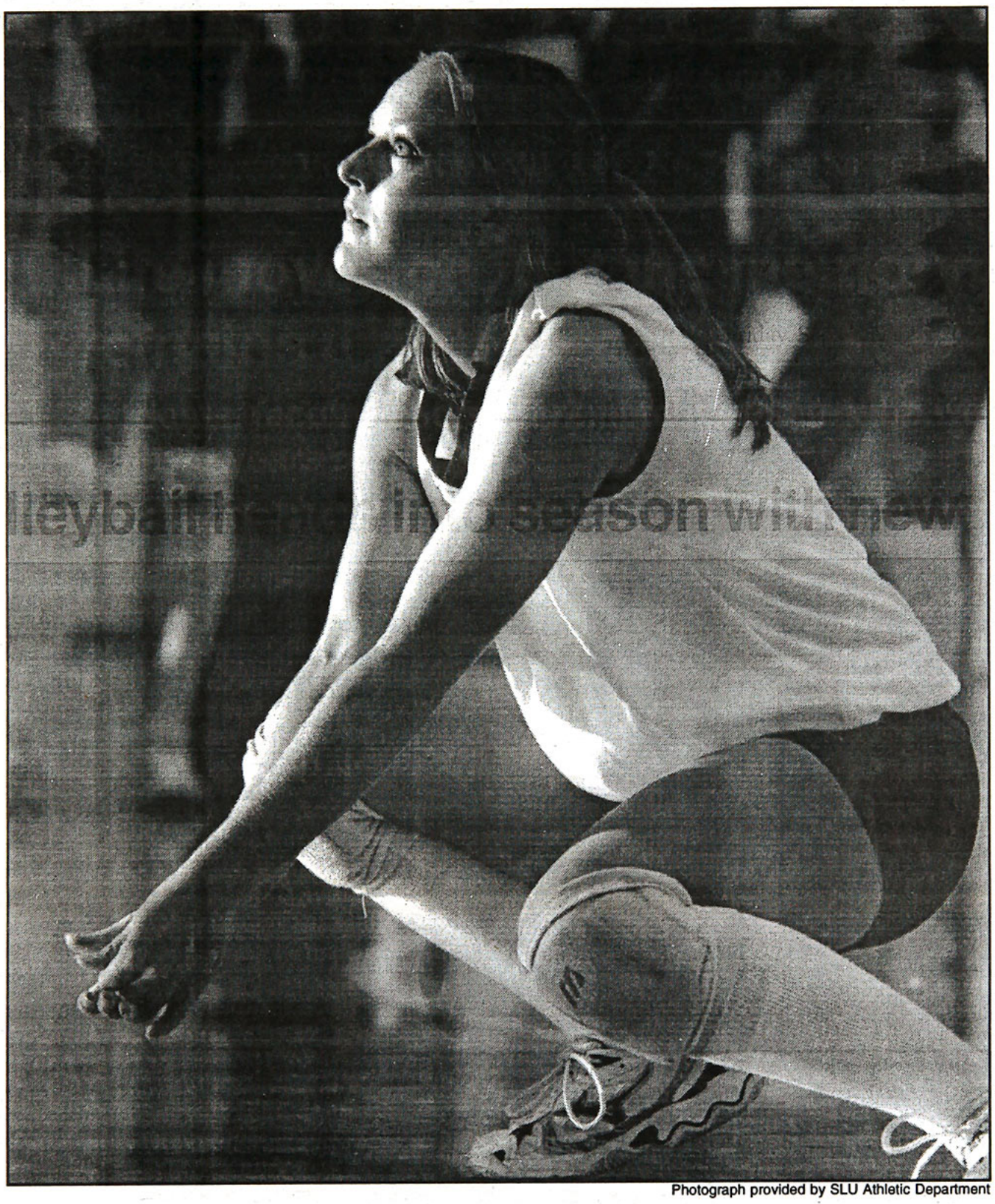
Radecki plans to move Beach back to setter where she started as a freshman. "I feel it's where the team needs her" said Radecki.

Sophomore outside hitter/libero Nikki Prack of Hudson, FL impressed the new coach during practice in April. "She will be more involved this year," said Radecki. "She has the desire and ability to swing. She puts forth a great deal of effort.

"We will try everyone in different positions in pre-season practice and just find the best six and go. Our keys will be passing and ball control. If we can pass and improve on our ball control as a team, we can compete in this Conference."

Other returning players include sophomore defensive specialist/ libero Eva Thompson of Erlanger, KY; junior middle hitter Tara Pagliaro of New Port Richey, FL, sophomore hitter Morgan Mander of Dade City, FL and junior middle hitter Jennifer Sessa of Port Richey, FL.

Radecki was able to bring in three freshmen. They include setter Nicole Groesbeck of Sarasota, FL, middle hitter/outside hitter Alex Farmer of Fort Myers, FL and hitter Erin Oberlin of Naples, FL. "Nicole will impact the team with her enthusiasm, love of the sport and work ethic," the coach explained. "Alex is versatile and athletic. Erin demonstrated a desire to be a part of our team and will help us down the road."



Photograph provided by SLU Athletic Department

Sophomore libero/defensive specialist Eva Thompson of Erlanger, KY averaged 2.46 digs for 13 games.

Cross country teams have week off to prepare for FSC meet

The Saint Leo University men's and women's cross country teams had their scheduled dual meet with Rollins College cancelled by the Tars, which gave them a week off. The Lions return to action, Saturday, September 27 in Lakeland, FL at Florida Southern College in the pre-Sunshine State Conference meet.

The women's team finished seventh with 168 points at the Florida Tech Invitational on September 13. The men failed to field a full team. Embry-Riddle University won both divisions with 27 points in men's action and 32 in women's competition.

Senior Melanie Ladenheim of Gainesville, FL led the Saint Leo women for the second straight week with a 26th finish overall and a time of 23:36.67 in the 5-k run. Senior Maria Martin of Jewett City, CT was 32nd at 24:28.68, junior Marybeth Morrison of Lakeland, FL was 33rd at 24:56.04, junior Amber Getz of Land O'Lakes, FL was 37th at 25:29.09, sophomore Danielle Walter of Lakeland, FL was 47th at 28:36.19, and sophomore Jeanette Miraglia of Rochester, NY was 51st at 31:14.17.

Sophomore Walter Vargas of Masaya, Nicaragua was the first Lion male runner across the finish line in 47th place overall with a time of 34:56.64 in the 8-k run. He was followed by freshman Tony Dirth of Waterloo, IA, who finished 57th at 37:19.06, junior Joel Stephens of Dade City, FL, who was 58th at 37:20.98, and junior Daniel Kahl of Trindad/ Tobago, who was 61st at 40:29.26.